Applicant: Wehler et al.

Application No.: 10/574,865

In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A chain link for an energy guide chain comprising:

a link plate;

a transverse link;

a fixing means device releasably joining the link plate to a the transverse link,

wherein the fixing means device defines an open upper entrance portion

for receiving an end portion of the transverse link and has includes a locking

means lock; and

a torsional element joined to the fixing means device and a wall of the link plate in such a

way that the fixing means device is pivotable around the torsional element and a

longitudinal axis of the link plate.

2. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the fixing means device is

arranged in a pivoting axis receptacle formed in the wall, extending at least from an inner wall in

the a direction of an outer wall of the link plate.

3. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the fixing means device

and the link plate are formed in one piece.

4. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the fixing means device

and the link plate are made of several pieces.

5. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 4, wherein the fixing means device is

releasably joined to the receptacle.

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6. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, A chain link for an energy guide chain comprising:

a link plate;

a fixing means releasably joining the link plate to a transverse link,

where the fixing means has a locking means; and

a torsional element joined to the fixing means and

a wall of the link plate in such a way that the

fixing means is pivotable around a longitudinal axis of the link

plate, and wherein the torsional element comprises a torque rod.

7. (Previously Presented) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the wall is made of a material selected from the group consisting of:

plastic, elastomeric plastic, renewable raw material; and metal.

- 8. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 2, and further comprising:

 a pivoting axis joined to the transverse link, and wherein the pivoting axis receptacle is formed for accepting a pivoting axis of a transverse link.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the locking means lock substantially prevents a relative movement of the link plate in a direction substantially transverse to the longitudinal axis of the link plate when joining the link plate with a transverse link.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the locking means lock is adapted to substantially prevent relative movement of the transverse link in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the link plate when joining the link plate to a transverse link.

- 11. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, and further comprising:

 means for substantially limiting the fixing means device from pivoting.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 1, wherein the fixing means device has at least one tool access region.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The chain link of claim 1 and further comprising:
 a plurality of additional chain links having link plates connected to one
 another by at least one transverse link; and
 at least one of the additional link plates is connected to the chain link.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 13, wherein the each transverse link of the additional links cooperates with at least one fixing means device.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 13, and further comprising:

 a locking piece receptacle defined in the transverse link, and wherein a locking means

 lock cooperates with a locking piece receptacle of the transverse link of the additional links.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 15, wherein the locking means lock and locking receptacle are joined to one another in a positive locking manner.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 14, wherein the transverse link and the fixing means device, are releasably engaged.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 15, wherein the locking receptacle is formed on the transverse link and can be engaged with the locking means lock in a positive locking manner.

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19. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 13, wherein each additional link plate comprises:

a joining side; and

a pivoting means pivot formed on the transverse link, which can be engaged with a pivoting axis receptacle.

20. (Currently Amended) The chain link according to claim 13, An energy guide chain comprising:

a plurality of chain links each having:

a link plate;

a fixing means releasably joining the link plate to a transverse link,

where the fixing means has a locking means;

a torsional element joined to the fixing means and

a wall of the link plate in such a way that the

fixing means is pivotable around a longitudinal axis of the link

plate, and wherein the torsional element comprises a torque rod

a plurality of additional chain links having link plates connected to one

another by at least one transverse link; and

at least one of the additional link plates is connected to the chain link; and

wherein each additional chain link includes an intermediate piece having a side which accepts the joining side of a transverse link, and the other side of which has at least one pivoting means engaged with the pivoting axis receptacle of the plate

The chain link of claim 1 and further comprising:

link.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The chain link of claim 1, wherein:

the fixing means device produces a separable joint between a link plate and a transverse link in the link plate, where the fixing means can be joined to a locking means joined to a torsional element, where the torsional element can be joined with a wall of the link plate so that it can be pivoted around a substantially longitudinal axis of the link plate.

23. (Currently Amended) The chain link of claim 22, A chain link for an energy guide chain comprising:

a link plate;

a fixing means releasably joining the link plate to a transverse link,
where the fixing means has a locking means; and

a torsional element joined to the fixing means and a wall of the link plate in such a way

that the fixing means is pivotable around a longitudinal axis of the link

plate wherein the torsional element comprises: a torque rod; and

wherein the fixing means produces a separable joint between a link plate and a transverse

link in the link plate, where the fixing means can be joined to a locking

means joined to a torsional element, where the torsional element can be

joined with a wall of the link plate so that it can be pivoted around a

substantially longitudinal axis of the link plate.

24. (Currently Amended) A chain link for an energy guide chain comprising:

a link plate;

a transverse link;

a fixing means releasably joining the link plate to the transverse link, wherein the fixing means includes a locking means;

two torsional elements joined to the fixing means and a wall of the link plate in such a

way that the fixing means is pivotable around a longitudinal axis of the link plate;

and

wherein the fixing device produces a separable joint and The chain link according to elaim 22, wherein the locking means is arranged between the two torsional elements.